

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Office Action, dated September 12, 2005, the Examiner objected to the drawings for failing to include the reference "arrow 86" as mentioned on page 11 of the description. Secondly, the Examiner objected to the specification because the disclosure contained numerous errors regarding terminology and reference numbers. Finally, the Examiner objected to claims 1-11, for various informalities, but he indicated that all of the pending claims 1-11 would be allowable if the appropriate corrections were made.

In response, the applicant has amended claims 1, 2, 4-7, 10, and 11, to overcome the examiner's objections and place them into condition for allowance. Applicant has also made several amendments to the specification and drawings to correct word processing errors and to eliminate inconsistencies between the drawings and the specification as will be explained in more detail below. None of these changes are intended to narrow the scope of claim coverage, since they merely correct what the examiner believes are informalities.

Amendments to Figure 3:

Figure 3 is amended to clarify the phantom lines that show the location of the extension rods 112 inside of the sleeves 140 and to include reference numbers 112, as described in amended paragraph 0028. These phantom lines were in the original drawings, but they were apparently attenuated enough by photographic reproduction to be not clearly discernable by the examiner.

Amendments to Figure 7:

Reference numbers 112 are added in Figure 7 to identify the plurality of extension rods 112, as described in amended paragraph 0028.

Amendments to the Specification:

The amendments in paragraph 0028 are to clarify that the plurality of extension rods 112 shown in Figure 3 are actually shown in phantom lines. The remaining amendments in the specification are made to correct terminology and eliminate inconsistencies between the drawings and the specification.

Re Claims 1 and 2:

The amendments to claim 1 and 2 are only grammatical in nature.

Re Claims 4, 5, and 6:

Claims 4, 5, and 6 are amended to correct certain terminology and to eliminate inconsistencies.

Re Claim 7:

The amendment to claim 7 corrects a word processing error by establishing dependency from independent claim 1.

Re Claim 10:

The amendments to claim 10 are grammatical in nature.

Re Claim 11:

Claim 11 is amended to correct a word processing error.

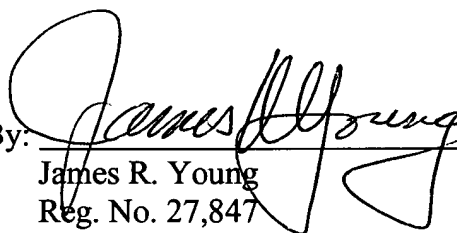
Conclusion:

All of the claims as now presented are believed to be allowable, and the Examiner is requested to issue an early allowance. If any issues remain to be resolved, the Examiner is requested to contact the applicant's attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully Submitted,
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Dated: December 12, 2005

By: _____


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